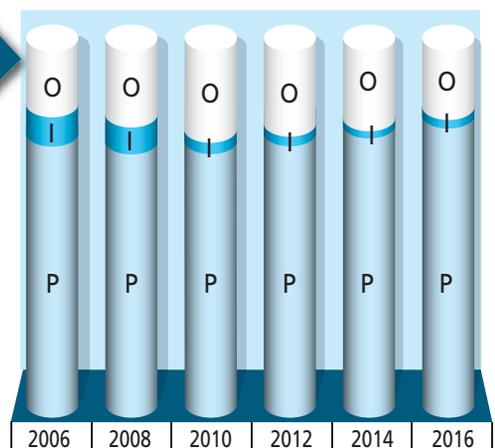
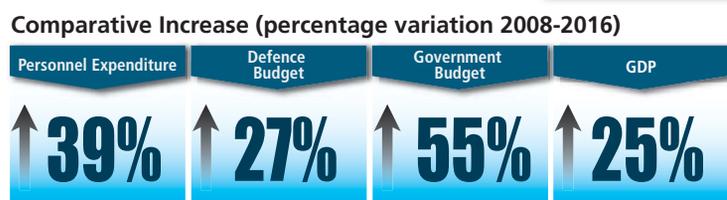
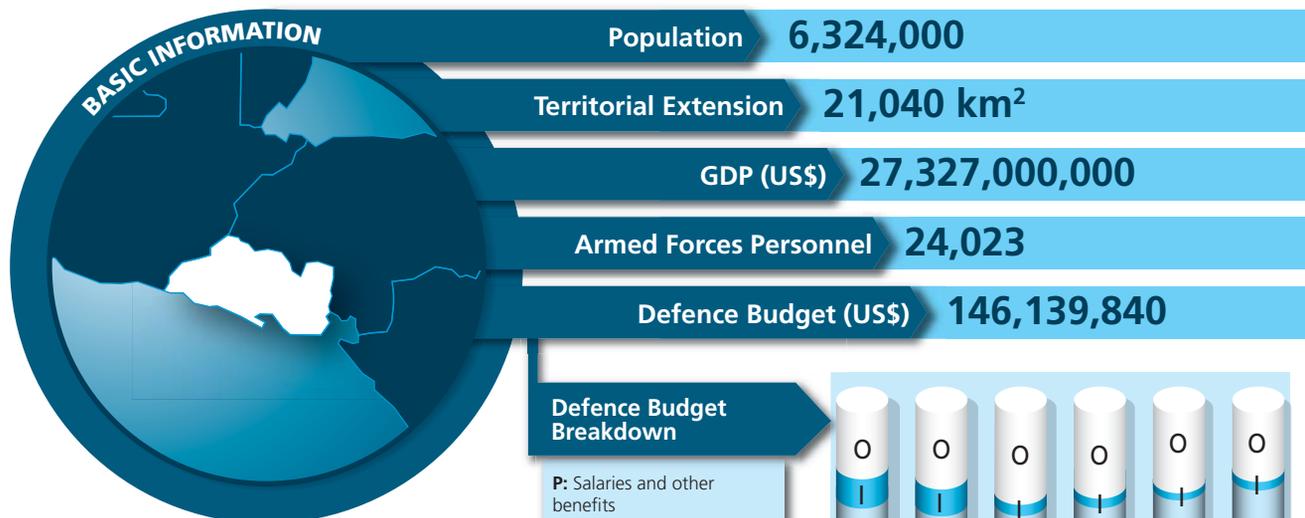


# El Salvador



The Ministry of National Defence was created in 1939 and its incumbent Minister is the Major General (R) David Munguía Payes.

## The Legal Framework

### National Legislation

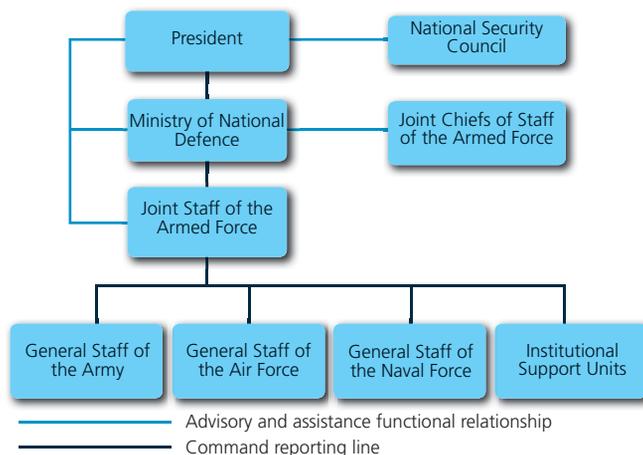
#### Systems and Concepts

- Organic Law of the Armed Force of El Salvador (DL N° 353 – 1998/07/30).
- Act on the Intelligence Agency of the State (DL N° 554 • 2001/09/21).
- National Defence Act (DL N° 948 – 2002/10/03).

#### Military Organization

- Military Justice Code (DL N° 562 – 1964/05/29. Last amendment: DL N° 368 – 1992/11/27).
- Act of Military Decorations (DL N° 520 – 1969/10/24).
- Act of the Armed Forces Social Security Institute (DL N° 500 – 1980/11/28. Last amendment: DL N° 1027 – 2002/11/20).
- Act on Military Career (DL N° 476 – 1995/11/30. Last amendment: DL N° 247 – 2016/02/19).
- Act on Fire Arms, Ammunitions, Explosives and similar Articles Control and Regulation (DL N° 665 – 1999/07/26. Last amendment: DL N° 282 – 2013/02/19).
- Act on Military Service and Reserves of the Armed Force (DL N° 298 – 2002/08/10. Last amendment: DL N° 664 – 2011/05/11).
- Act on Regulation and Control of Fireworks (DL N° 810 – 2014/10/24).
- Act on Benefits for FMLN Veterans (DL N° 187 – 2015/12/09).

## The Defence System



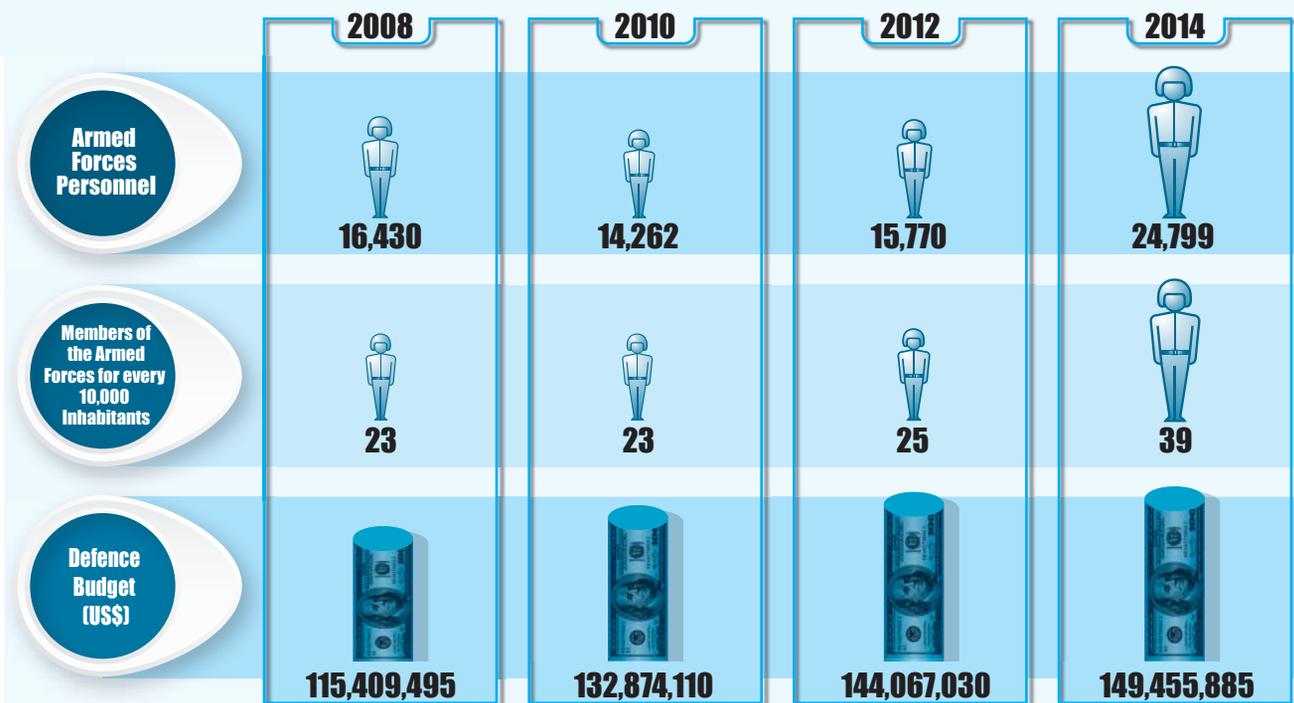
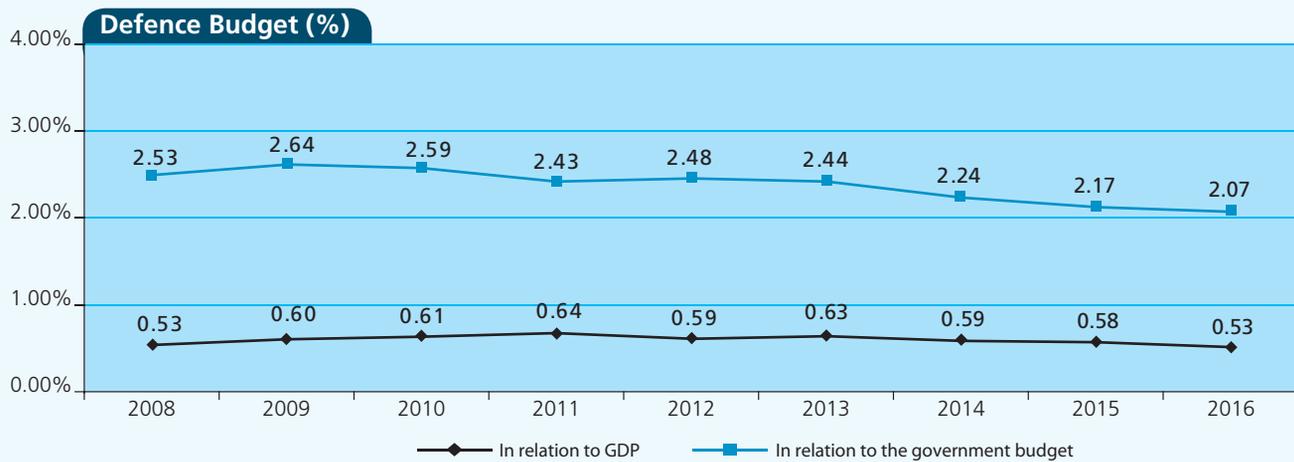
The President is advised by the National Security Council, composed of the Vice President, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Government, Economy and Defence, the General Director of the National Civil Police, the Executive Director of the State Intelligence Agency and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the Armed Forces. The Minister of Defence is the communication line for all the orders issued by the President to the Armed Forces, through the Joint Staff, responsible for the conduction of the branches and the support units, and advisory body for everything related to the employment and administration of the institution. The Joint Chiefs of Staff advise the Minister on aspects related to military policy and the employment of the military power in national defence. The Legislative Assembly holds the powers granted by the Constitution and permanently monitors defence-related issues through the Defence Committee.

**Source:** Compilation based on the Political Constitution, *Ley orgánica de la Fuerza Armada de El Salvador* (DL N° 353 - 1998/07/30) and *Ley de la defensa nacional* (DL N° 948 - 2002/10/03).

**Source:** *Anuario Estadístico de América Latina y el Caribe*, 2015, CEPAL (territory and population: projection 2016), IMF, World Economic Outlook Database, (GDP projection 2016), and information provided by the Ministry of National Defence (personnel).

## Budget

Year	Defence Budget (US\$)	Government Budget (US\$)	GDP (en US\$)
2008	115,409,495	4,558,300,000	21,824,000,000
2009	132,861,405	5,038,433,545	22,166,000,000
2010	132,874,110	5,124,169,115	21,805,000,000
2011	145,784,585	5,989,727,385	22,616,000,000
2012	144,067,030	5,814,371,405	24,421,000,000
2013	153,316,645	6,279,127,770	24,512,000,000
2014	149,455,885	6,665,549,015	25,495,000,000
2015	148,398,485	6,853,128,192	25,766,000,000
2016	146,139,840	7,060,614,375	27,327,000,000



Source: Compilation based on the *Ley de presupuesto general del Estado y de presupuestos especiales* from 2006 to 2016. The Government Budget is considered as that passed by Congress in the aforementioned law. Investment is considered as that presented in "Institutional investment".  
GDP: Projection of the World Economic Outlook Database, IMF, for each year considered. This source has been taken for comparative purposes. Each country prepares the budget based on its own GDP estimation.

**The Armed Forces**

**General Mission**

The mission of the Armed Force is to defend the sovereignty of the State and integrity of the territory. The President shall exceptionally make use of the Armed Force to keep internal peace, in accordance with the Constitution. The Armed Force shall cooperate in actions for public benefit as assigned by the Executive and shall assist the people in case of national disasters. (Constitution of the Republic, Sec. 212)

**Specific Missions:**

**Army**

Its mission is to defend the country's sovereignty and the land territory in coordination and support of the other Armed Force branches; render aid to the population in case of national disaster; cooperate with acts of public benefit and, exceptionally, contribute to the maintenance of internal peace.

**Navy**

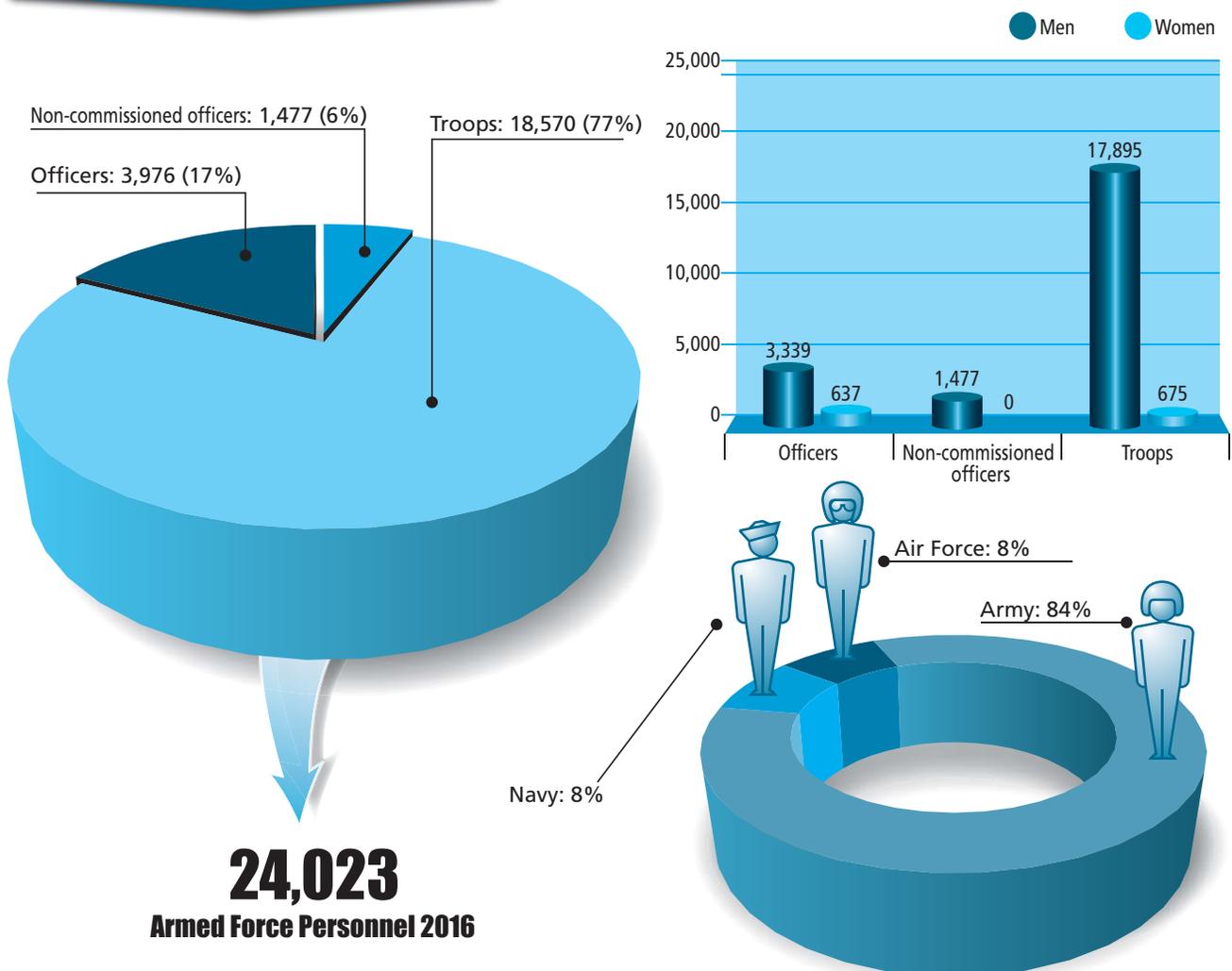
Its mission is to defend the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the State in its territorial waters and --in a combined manner-- the Gulf of Fonseca and insular territory in coordination with the other Armed Force branches; protect marine riches, the subsoil and national seabed; render assistance to the population in the event of national disaster; cooperate in acts of public benefit and, exceptionally, contribute to the maintenance of internal peace, as well as execute maritime jurisdiction tasks to enforce navigation laws and assist the respective authorities for compliance with tax and immigration laws

**Air Force**

Defend the sovereignty of the State and integrity of the national air space, support ground forces in the accomplishment of their respective missions; render assistance to the population in cases of national disaster, cooperate in public benefit work and, exceptionally, contribute to the maintenance of internal peace.

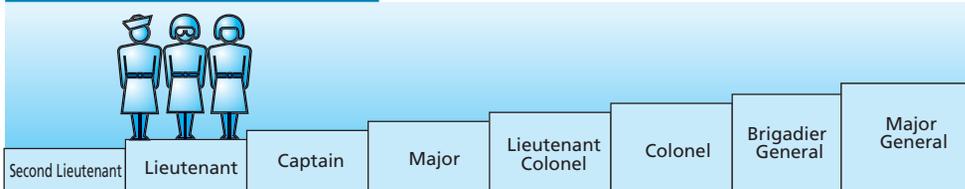
**In 2016, the National Ministry of Defence created the Institutional Gender Unit to promote a gender perspective among its personnel.**

**Armed Force Personnel 2016**



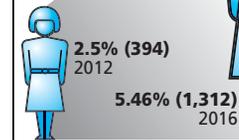
Source: Compilation based on the *Libro de Defensa Nacional 2006* (missions) and information provided by the Ministry of National Defence (personnel).

**Women in the Armed Forces** Maximum rank achieved by women in the Command Corps (2016)



**Note:** These ranks correspond to the Army, as an example. The equivalent rank for Lieutenant is Lieutenant in the Air Force and Lieutenant Senior Grade in Navy. The Command corps includes officers who have been educated at military academies from the beginning of their careers, different to those who develop a career in the civilian sphere and are then incorporated to the military.

The presence of women in the Armed Forces has increased from:



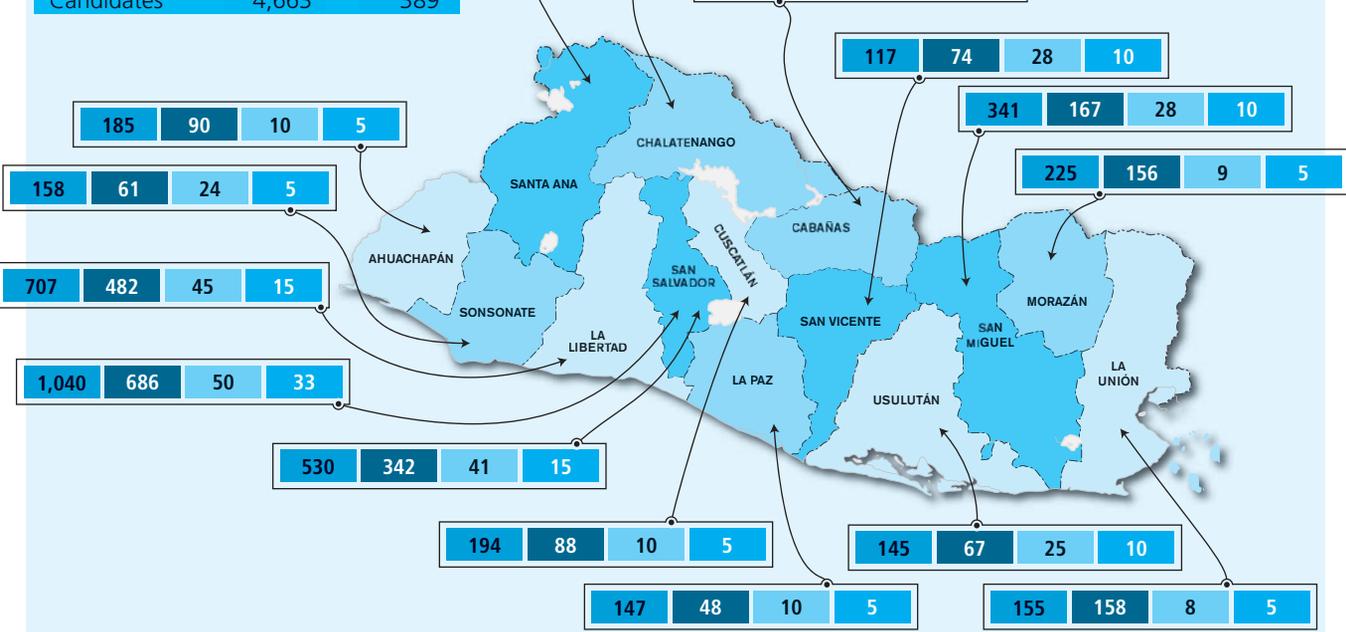
**Military Service**

It is mandatory for all male citizens and is carried out within the national territory. Women may join voluntarily. In March 2011, article 5 of the Military Service and Armed Forces Reserve Law was reformed, establishing that military service will have a duration of 18 months.

**Armed Force**

	MEN	WOMEN
Entrants	3,003	153
Candidates	4,663	389

Men		Women	
Candidates	Entrants	Candidates	Entrants
267	118	65	10

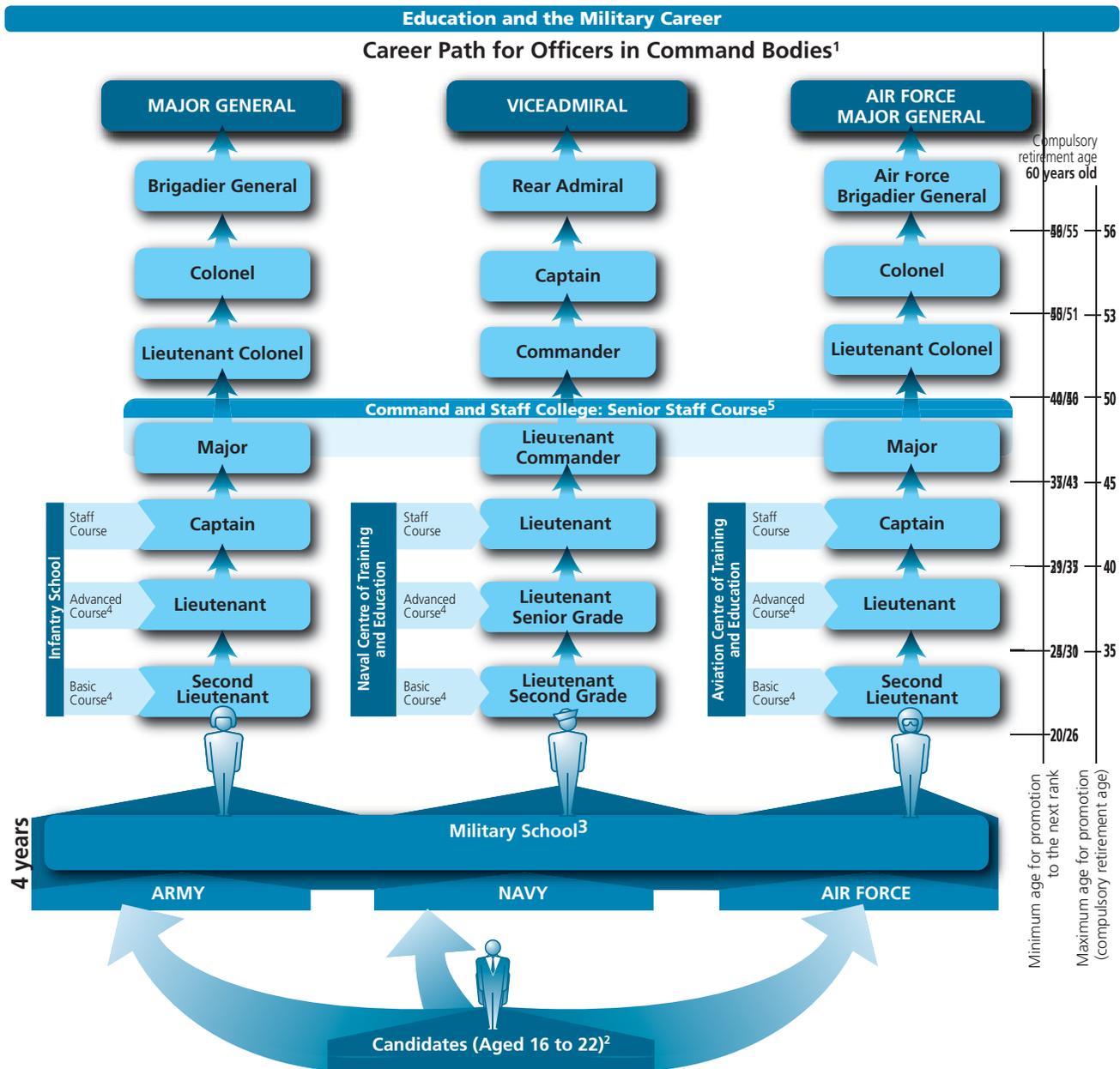


**Territorial Deployment of the Armed Forces**



**Source:** Ley de servicio militar y reserva de la Fuerza Armada (DL N° 298 – 2002/08/10. Last amendment: DL N° 664 – 2011/05/11) and information provided by the Ministry of National Defence.

Downloaded from RESDAL - http://www.resdal.org



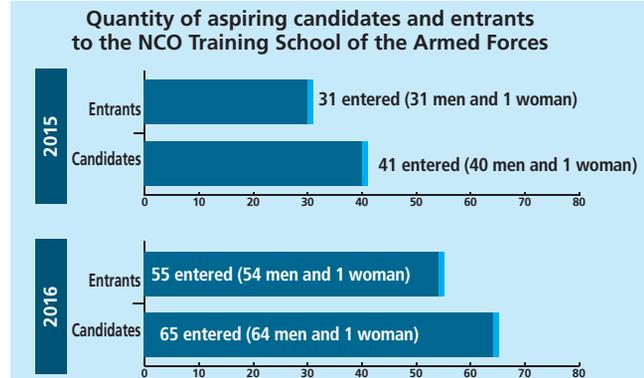
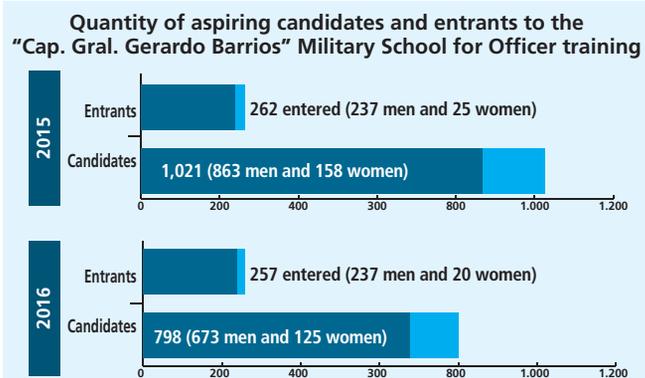
1 Command corps includes officers who have been educated at military academies from the beginning of their professional careers. The graph makes a theoretical reconstruction of officers' promotion through the completion of mandatory courses. Further requirements for promotion have not been considered.

2 The ages of 16-22 have been considered for comparative purposes. The minimum age for promotion shall depend on the age of graduation from the military institution.

3 Air Force and Naval Force cadets attending the Military School shall do their third and fourth years at the Military Aviation School and Military Naval School respectively.

4 Basic and advanced courses are taken at the corresponding service's school.

5 According to the Military Career Law Regulation, the first year of the Senior Staff course must be to get promoted to Lieutenant Colonel.



Source: Compilation based on *Ley de carrera militar* (DL N° 476 – 1995/10/18. Last amendment: DL N° 247 – 2016/02/10); *Reglamento de la Ley de carrera militar* (DE N° 50 – 1996/05/23). *Reglamento del sistema educativo de la Fuerza Armada* (DE N° 13 – 1998/01/26. Last amendment: D.E. N° 17 – 2004/02/27), website of the Armed Forces of El Salvador and information provided by the Ministry of National Defence.

### Defence and National and International Community

**Activities in which Defence is related to:**

- Civil protection and environment
- Security
- Education
- Health

In support of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security, the New Dawn Campaign has been elaborated with the aim of contributing to the security of the population through the implementation of preventive anti-crime operations in coordination with other institutions:

**Support in Public Security**

**National Civil Police**

- 3,100 Armed Forces personnel have been deployed in 8 task forces localized in 9 departments and 42 zones with the highest rates of crime as part of the **Zeus Operational Plan**.
- **Eagle Command:** Within the framework of the Prevention and Community Support Plan, 1,200 military personnel are deployed in 300 Joint Community Support Groups.
- **Thunder Command:** This command is made up of three units of Special Rapid Reaction Forces (FER, Fuerzas Especiales de Reacción) which conducts joint rapid reaction and anti-crime operations throughout the national territory, following the underlying concept of supporting public security activities.

Results	2015	2016
Searches of people	1,305,345	925,775
Vehicle inspection	577,194	306,134
Foot patrols	486,477	155,053
Vehicle controls	27,548	33,534
Vehicle patrols	274,830	23,934
Seizures of marihuana (portions)	7,589	19,117
Seizures of cocaine Kg	2,761	6,076
Firearms confiscation	253	531
Vehicle confiscation	46	37

**General Directorate of Migration and Foreign Persons**

As part of the **Sumpul Operational Plan**, 700 Armed Forces personnel are deployed across 130 unofficial crossings across the national territory in order to assist in the fight against contraband, and the trafficking of drugs, firearms, livestock, stolen vehicles, and persons

**General Directorate of Penitentiary Centers**

Through the **San Carlos Operational Plan** and the **Penitentiary Support Groups**, 1,800 personnel are deployed in 11 high-risk penitentiary centers, 7 low-risk penitentiary centers and 3 centers for the rehabilitation of minors.

#### Support to the Ministry of Health

	2015	2016
Fumigations	43,559	68,550
Abatizations	17,333	28,133
Personnel deployed	1,374	3,384

#### Development support activities

	2015			2016		
	Quantity	Beneficiaries	Participants	Quantity	Beneficiaries	Participants
Military-Civilian actions	32	39,837	1,767	21	19,286	1,523
Health campaigns	9	3,319	214	7	1,375	104

#### Participation in Peace Operations

Current Missions	Military Component			
	MEM		MC	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
MINURSO (Western Sahara)	3	-	-	-
MINUSMA (Mali)	1	-	87	4
MINUSTAH (Haiti)	-	-	44	-
UNIFIL (Lebanon)	-	-	50	2
UNISFA (Sudan)	1	-	-	-
UNMISS (South Sudan)	2	-	1	-
UNOCI (Ivory Coast)	3	-	-	-

El Salvador contributes with 198 military personnel to United Nations peace missions

MEM: Military mission experts, including military observers, judge advocates and military liaison officers - MC: Military Contingent.

**Source:** Statistics of military and police contributions to United Nations operations, United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), June 2016, *Informe de rendición de cuentas 2015-2016* and information provided by the Ministry of National Defence.